Without assuming prior legal knowledge, books in the Directions series introduce and guide readers through key points of law and legal debate. Questions, diagrams, and exercises help readers to engage fully with each subject and check their understanding as they progress. This chapter first discusses the five main non-fatal offences against the person: assault (also referred to as ‘common assault’); battery; assault occasioning actual bodily harm; maliciously wounding or inflicting grievous bodily harm; and wounding or causing grievous bodily harm with intent. It also examines the defence of consent, and the two poisoning offences which are indictable only: maliciously administering poison or a noxious thing so as to endanger life or inflict grievous bodily harm under s.23 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861; and maliciously administering poison or a noxious thing with intent to injure, aggrieve, or annoy, contrary to s.24 of the same Act.
7. Non-fatal offences against the person

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